

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/914,093	STALLINGA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael V Battaglia	2652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08 November 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3 and 5-17 (now renumbered as 1,2,4,6,3,5,7,8,11,9,12,10 and 13-16 respectively).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 and 5-17 are allowable over the prior art of record. Claims 8-13 are allowable for the reasons specified in a previous Office action (paper number 9).

In regard to claim 1, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an optical wavefront modifier for modifying a wavefront of an optical beam passing through the modifier, the modifier comprising a first and a second transparent electrode layer and a medium for modifying the wavefront in dependence on electrical excitation of the medium and arranged between the electrode layers, the first electrode layer comprising three or more electrodes of a transparent, conductive material, characterized in that the first electrode layer comprises a series arrangement of resistors, the electrodes being electrically connected to the series arrangement of resistors, and the resistors being made of said transparent, conductive material **wherein the series arrangement of resistors is integrated in the electrodes.**

In regard to claim 14, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach a method for modifying a radiation beam in a scanning device for an optical record carrier, the method comprising: using a wavefront modifier comprising at least first and second transparent electrode layers, **at least one of the layers having a center of symmetry that is displaced from an optical center of the radiation beam;** a medium for modifying the wavefront in dependence on electrical excitation from the electrodes; adjusting voltage of one or both electrodes to alter an effect of the wavefront modifier to compensate for expected motion of an objective lens system of the scanning device; and receiving and modifying a radiation beam using the modifier with the altered effect.

In regard to claim 15, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an optical wavefront modifier for modifying a wavefront of an optical beam passing

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through the modifier, the modifier comprising at least first and second transparent electrode layers, at least the first electrode layer comprising three or more electrodes of a transparent conductive material, **the electrodes being electrically connected to a series arrangement of resistors with the series arrangement of resistors integrated within the electrodes**, wherein the electrodes within each layer are arranged around a center of symmetry and a width of the electrodes decreases with increasing radius from the center; and at least one medium for modifying the wavefront in dependence on electrical excitation of the medium, the medium being arranged between the electrode layers.

In regard to claim 17, none of the references of record alone or in combination suggest or fairly teach an optical wavefront modifier for modifying a wavefront of an optical beam passing through the modifier, the modifier comprising at least first and second transparent electrode layers, at least the first electrode layer comprising three or more electrodes of a transparent, conductive material, **the electrodes being electrically connected to a series arrangement of resistors with the series arrangement of resistors integrated within the electrodes**, wherein a difference between a maximum value taken by the aberration function in the area occupied by an electrode and a minimum value taken by the aberration function in the area occupied by that electrode is substantially equal for all electrodes of the wavefront modifier; and at least one medium for modifying the wavefront in dependence on electrical excitation of the medium, the medium being arranged between the electrode layers.

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Conclusion

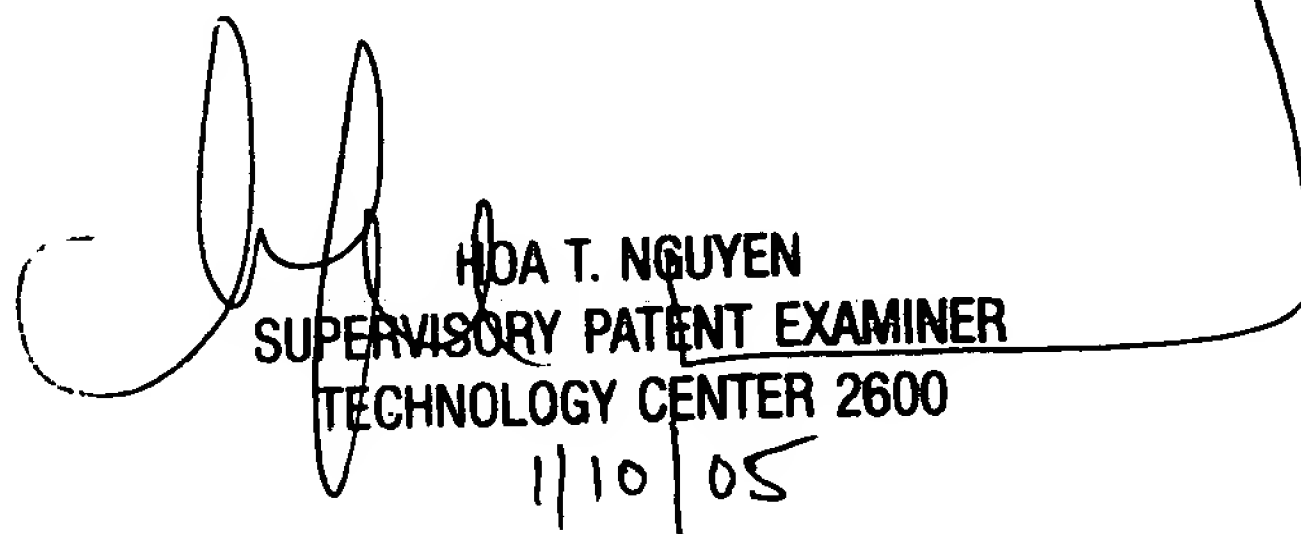
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael V Battaglia whose telephone number is (703) 305-4534. The examiner can normally be reached on 5-4/9 Plan with 1st Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T Nguyen can be reached on (703) 305-9687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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1/10/05